

It is my hope that the statue will serve as a daily reminder that, in a world where evil exists, there are among us the good and the just fighting for all our salvation and freedom.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN
CANTIUS CHURCH, WINDBER, PA

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute before the U.S. House of Representatives to the St. John Cantius Parish in Windber, Pennsylvania, as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary today.

The St. John Cantius was the first Catholic Church in Windber, from which sprang all the other Catholic Parishes serving the Windber area today.

St. John Cantius, originally established in 1898 as the Immaculate Conception Parish, has a fascinating early history that classically demonstrates how immigrants from many different countries who came to America—and particularly to our area of western Pennsylvania—at the beginning of this century were united by their faith. The church was the central entity that helped bind these people together, overcoming different cultural backgrounds, language barriers, and traditions to create a strong, cohesive community. Even the clergy themselves came from different countries and spoke different languages. This strength and unity served these faithful people well as they struggled to make their way in America, overcoming the hard realities of the grueling daily worklife in the farming and coal mining regions that built and fed this country.

The St. John Cantius Church has not only endured, but has thrived and multiplied, increasing the numbers of its parishioners as well as parishes and preserving the tradition of devotion to family and faith for succeeding generations. In addition, it has provided its community with strength and support throughout all the trials and tribulations of this century, from the hardscrabble days of the Industrial Revolution, when the area's miners and steelworkers endured long work hours, low pay and abysmal working conditions, even through the Great Depression. It supported and comforted the people of the community through many wars that saw many of its young men head off to distant lands to defend their country and its ideals of freedom, sometimes never to return. It has held its community together through more modern struggles—the decline of the steel industry that brought lasting economic hard times and crippling unemployment. Through it all, the St. John Cantius Church has been a constant in the lives of the people of Windber—a source of support and sustenance, spiritually and in many other ways.

I am deeply honored to join in celebrating this wonderful occasion with the parishioners and clergy of St. John Cantius. May the church as well as the community it serves continue to grow and prosper for another one hundred years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I was detained on June 10 for rollcall vote 225. As a supporter and cosponsor of earlier bankruptcy reform legislation, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF THE HISTORICAL
EXHIBIT OF OLD YORKVILLE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a respectful tribute to Zion-St. Mark's Lutheran Church, the last German-speaking church in the Yorkville area in my district.

The church has organized an historical exhibit of old Yorkville to commemorate the history of the area which used to be known as "German Town." It was formed as a middle and eastern European melting pot. As more and more high-rises and other large buildings have been built in recent decades, the character of the area has changed and some of the old-world charm has been lost.

Also to be prominently featured at this exhibit is a commemoration of the Slocum Disaster, the most lethal fire in American history and one of the world's greatest maritime tragedies. On June 15, 1904, the parishioners of St. Mark's church on 6th Street in Manhattan held their annual picnic. Since the festivities included a boat ride on the General Slocum, 1,446 members of the congregation boarded for a trip to Locust Grove on Long Island. Tragically, the boat caught fire. According to reports, the loss of life was disproportionately high because the boat's life vests and life boats were old or useless and there had been no fire-drills. 1,021 people died.

Because this disaster took such a heavy toll, the Lower East Side's German community was suddenly greatly reduced in number. Many of those remaining were too saddened to stay, and decided to move uptown, to Yorkville. The members of the St. Mark's congregation eventually merged with the Zion Church on East 8th Street. The church is now known as Zion-St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

Many accounts have been written of the terrible Slocum Disaster. This exhibit will allow people to remember the many fine contributions of the German-American community before and after this horrible event wiped out so much of their population. It will commemorate the victims, honor the survivors, and highlight some of the history of Germans in New York City. Finally, the exhibit will recall the days of old Yorkville, from the 18th Century through the 20th. This area was once a landmark section of New York and has quite a story to tell.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to the congregation of Zion-St. Mark's Lutheran Church, to the Ladies Aid Society, and to Kathryn A. Jolowicz.

TRIBUTE TO JACK PARTON

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend Jack Parton, of Hebron, Indiana, for his exemplary service to Indiana's First Congressional District. Since 1982, when Jack was serving as the District 31 Director of the United Steelworkers of America, he has organized an annual golf outing to raise money for the National Kidney Foundation. This year, in honor of his great efforts and activities on behalf of the Kidney Foundation, Jack was honored by the foundation during the Cadillac Invitational Golf Tournament, on June 15, 1998 at the Broadmoor Country Club in Merrillville, Indiana.

The 16th annual 'Kidney Days Golf Outing' fundraiser for the National Kidney Foundation will be held on August 21, 1998. The event will take place at five golf courses in Northwest Indiana and is expected to include almost one thousand participants. Profits will be given to the Kidney Foundation to help the ailing and needy, with expected proceeds to be in excess of \$4,000. In the previous 15 years of this event, over \$100,000 has been raised and donated to the National Kidney Foundation.

A strong leader of the United Steelworkers of America, Jack first joined in the union in 1959 as a member of Local 1014 at U.S. Steel's Gary Works, where he served two terms as its President. Jack was elected Director of District 31 in 1981, and he was subsequently re-elected in 1985, 1989, and 1993. In 1995, District 31 was re-organized into District 7, which now encompasses all of Illinois and Indiana, and Jack served as its first director. In March of 1998, Jack was installed once more as the District 7 Director. Dedicated to the union, Jack has assumed numerous important responsibilities, including chairing contract negotiations with Inland Steel, Ryerson, Acme Steel, Northwestern Steel & Wire, and LTV Steel, where he serves as Secretary of negotiations. In addition, Jack established the District 7 Labor/Management Safety and Health Conference, which was the first district-level conference of its type in the USWA. In 1996, Jack served as the Secretary of the 1996 Convention Officers' Report Committee.

Jack, while deeply committed to his work, is also dedicated to his family. He often travels back to Virginia to visit his mother and spend time with his other relatives. His future plans include working to facilitate the unification merger of the United Autoworkers and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers with the United Steelworkers of America. Together with other union leaders, Jack will ensure that the membership of these three unions unites to form one comprehensive, united, and strong voice for working men and women. This newly invigorated union will be dedicated to serving, protecting, and aiding its membership.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in paying tribute to one of the region's true humanitarian leaders, Jack Parton. Jack's service to his community, co-workers, and union is worthy of the highest praise and emulation. Northwest Indiana is lucky to have such